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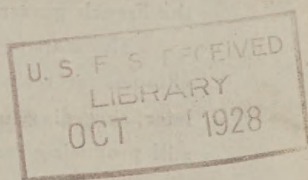
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FOREST PRODUCTS RESEARCH IN PICTURES

NO. 27

A MARITIME PINE TURPENTINED
BY FRENCH METHODS



FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY
U. S. FOREST SERVICE
MADISON, WISCONSIN

Eighty-five years ago, when this maritime pine was forming its first yearly growth rings, the Landes region on the French coast, where it grew, was an unhealthy waste of swamp and sand. The raising of sheep and goats yielded a miserable existence to a scanty, malaria-ridden population. Advancing sand dunes threatened to engulf the small amount of land which could still be grazed or cultivated. Today the district is demonstrating the benefits of continuously productive forests which were planted by the French government .

The scars of old turpentine faces show that this tree was first chipped for resin when it was about 35 years old. Fifty years later, according to the record of the scars and annual rings, it was still producing resin.

The Landes now supports a population of 1,400,000 on an area of a little less than two million acres, and its advantages as a health resort attract 200,000 visitors each year. From its forest comes a continuous supply of lumber, mine props, and ties; and so thriftily is this small forest managed before cutting that its production of turpentine and rosin is second only to that of the entire United States. The cost of reclaiming and reforesting a little more than one and a half million acres of waste has averaged only \$6.41 per acre.

*Based on data from "Timber: Mine Or Crop?"
of the U. S. Forest Service*



